



PATENT  
450100-4465.1

\$2876

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takumi OKAUE et al.

#13/IOS

Serial No. : 09/467,221

10/19/01

Filed : December 20, 1999

C. McChunney

For : EXTERNAL STORAGE APPARATUS AND CONTROL APPARATUS  
THEREOF, AND DATA TRANSMISSION/RECEPTION  
APPARATUS

Examiner : L. Taylor

Art Unit : 2876

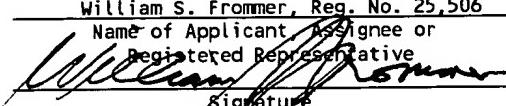
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)  
AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on July 20, 2001, and a copy of which is enclosed. U.S. Patent

5,388,248 mentioned in the Search Report was cited by the Examiner in the Office Action of July 21, 2000 (Paper No. 4) and we are therefore, not enclosing a copy of the reference. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after receipt of the final Office Action, mailed January 31, 2001.

As is apparent in said Search Report, applicants' undersigned attorney hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

By   
William S. Frommer  
Reg. No. 25,506  
Tel. (212) 588-0800



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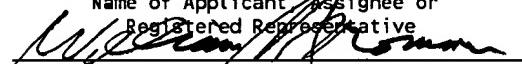
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William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

  
Signature

October 10, 2001  
Date of Signature

PETITION REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)  
requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement  
filed herewith after receipt of the final Office Action, mailed  
January 31, 2001.

This Information Disclosure Statement lists prior art  
that has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a

Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on July 20, 2001.

As is apparent from said Search Report, applicants' undersigned attorney hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

This petition is accompanied by the petition fee of \$130.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

In view of the above, applicants request that this petition be granted and that the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

By:

  
William S. Frommer  
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